METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AVOIDING
STARVATION IN COMPUTER NETWORK

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10   A method and apparatus for avoiding starvation at an
initiator node in a computer network to which are
connected at least one target node which provides service
and a plurality of initiator nodes which request service
from the target node. The method includes: when a
request is received from the initiator node during a
15   period that the target node is unable to provide service,
returning a reject reply by attaching thereto reject time
information that matches the period; when the target node
is in a state capable of providing service,
preferentially accepting a retry request carrying older
20   reject time information; and when the target node is in
the state capable of providing service, returning a
reject reply by attaching thereto new reject time
information in response to any first request received
before retry requests arising from previously rejected
25   requests are all accepted.